

27 September 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan Annual Review - 2002

1. I have reviewed the 2001 Update of the Pope Air Force Base Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) and determined that the INRMP does not warrant a revision at this time--the next major INRMP revision is scheduled to be prepared in FY03.

2. The future major INRMP revision should address several issues in an integrated format, possibly in a single plan. The issues or components should include:

a. A Community Forestry and Landscaping Plan that promotes native species; limits plant species that may attract BASH species in areas near airfield and in field habitats adjacent to the airfield; and consider airfield obstructions and tree heights. The Plan should also address pest management and water conservation issues.

b. An Ecosystem Management Plan to include inventory of flora and fauna, including threatened and endangered species, species of concern, classification of native vegetative communities IAW North Carolina Natural Heritage Classifications, identification of any special or ecologically significant habitats or communities (see memo by Col K. W. Crissman n.d. provided by Steve Reilly of the Fort Bragg Natural Resources Division), aquatics, and invasive/exotic/noxious species. The inventories shall be prepared in the appropriate season to assess presence, absence, and biodiversity. The plan will include management as appropriate. The plan shall provide details for water quality monitoring, permanent monitoring stations for flora and fauna, and effects of invasive or exotic species on rare flora and fauna. Management direction should be described in detail.

c. An Airfield Vegetation Management Plan that incorporates airfield height restrictions, harvests, and other vegetation management, may be developed in cooperation and coordination with the airfield operations element, IAW AFI. If developed, this plan may be incorporated in one of the other component plans or issues.

d. BASH management support measures including implementing the program for firearm use in depredation.

e. A nature trail on Pope property and fishing possibilities for the Laketree lake.

f. Other issues as determined by needs.

3. In addition, the following changes should be made in the next major revision of the INRMP: the current military chain of command will be provided and minor corrections